Implementation of NREGA

1066. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the cases of violence against workers after they demand for the proper implementation of NREGA; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No cases of violence against NREGA workers after they demand for the proper implementation of NREGA have been received in the Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

Working hours fixed for NREGA workers

1067. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the working hours fixed by Government for NREGA workers;

(b) whether Government has amended the Schedule to increase the working hours; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) Para 8 of Schedule 1 of NREG Act provided that the Schedule of rates of wages for unskilled labourers shall be so fixed that a person working for seven hours would normally earn a wage equal to the wage rate. The Government, *vide* notification dated 14th January, 2008 has substituted Para 8 of Schedule 1 of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act as under:

(i) "8(1) The Schedule of rates of wages for various unskilled labourers shall be so fixed that an adult person working for nine hours would normally earn a wage equal to the wage rate.

8(2) The working days of an adult worker shall be so arranged that inclusive of intervals of rest, if any, it shall not spread over more than twelve hours on any day."

(ii) After Para 8, following Para shall be inserted, namely:-

"8-A. The average out-turns of work put out by men and women workers working in a group will be the basis for fixing task based Schedule of rates so that there is no gender discrimination in the Schedule of rates."

It has been further clarified *vide* circular dated 28.5.08 that nine hours of work as indicated in para 8(i) above is inclusive of one hour of interval of rest.